



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

SN

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/486,280	02/24/2000	DENNIS R. THOMAS	29038/10006	3654

7590 03/23/2004

Husch & Eppenberg, LLC
Robert C. Haldiman
190 Carondelet Plaza
St. Louis, MO 63105

EXAMINER

KRIZEK, JANICE LEE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3652

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SW

1. The reply filed on January 7, 2004 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): applicant has failed to specifically point out how the language of claim 32 patentably distinguishes this claim from the teachings of the Rohr references. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Janice Krizek whose telephone number is (703) 308-2026. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eileen Lillis, can be reached at (703) 308-3248. The central official fax number is (703) 872-9306.

Application/Control Number: 09/486,280
Art Unit: 3652

Page 3

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

Janice L. Krizek 3/21/2004
Janice L. Krizek
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 3600